

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

01/19/04 15:23 FAX 262 783 1211

RYAN KROMHOLZ

JAN 20 2004

001/032

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C.
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

OFFICIAL

Daniel D. Ryan
Joseph A. Kromholz
John M. Manion
Laura A. Dable
Daniel R. Johnson
Patricia A. Limbach
Patrick J. Fleis

Telephone: (262) 783-1300
Facsimile: (262) 783-1211
Toll Free: (800) 686-9333

Est. 1873

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 26618
Milwaukee, WI 53226-0618

Building Address:
3360 Gateway Road
Brookfield, WI 53045

Arnold J. Ericson (Of Counsel)

Coversheet +³⁰ Page(s)

Date: 19 January 2004

RECIPIENT:

FACSIMILE NUMBER

1. USPTO (Group Art Unit 2837) 703-872-9306
cc: Examiner Wachsmann 703-746-4445

Regarding: USSN 10/606,009
Attorney Docket No. 1031.16081-CON

Comments: Attached is a Preliminary Amendment, per our discussion

From: Daniel D. Ryan, Reg. No. 29,243

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS FACSIMILE MESSAGE IS INTENDED FOR THE PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL USE OF THE DESIGNATED RECIPIENTS NAMED ABOVE. This message may be an attorney-client communication, and as such is privileged and confidential. If the reader of this message is not the intended recipient or an agent responsible for delivering it to the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that you have received this document in error, and that any review, dissemination, distribution or copying of this message is strictly prohibited. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by telephone and return the original message to us by mail. Thank you.

Customer No. 26308

PATENT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re application of: Blumenthal et al.

Attorney Docket No.: 1031.16081-CON

Serial No.: 10/606,009

Examiner: Wachsman

Filed: 25 June 2003

Group Art Unit: 2857

For: Systems and Methods for Controlling the Activity of Carbon in Heat Treating Atmospheres

**Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER
JAN 20 2004**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL**OFFICIAL**

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is

a small entity

other than a small entity.

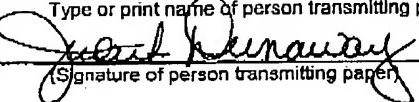
CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION VIA TELECOPIER

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being transmitted to the United States Patent Office, addressed to the attention of the Examiner and Group Art Unit identified, above, by telecopier transmission, on 19 January 2004, telecopier Nos: 703-872-9306 and 703-746-4445

Judith Dunaway

Type or print name of person transmitting paper

Date: 19 January 2004


(Signature of person transmitting paper)

01/19/04 15:24 FAX 262 783 1211

RYAN KROMHOLZ

RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER

006/032

JAN 20 2004

OFFICIAL

Patent

Customer No.: 26308

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Blumenthal et al. Attorney Docket No. 1031.16081-CON
Serial No.: 10/606,009 Examiner: Wachsman
Filed: 25 June 2003 Group Art Unit: 2857
Title: Systems and Methods for Controlling the Activity of Carbon in Heat Treating Atmospheres

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT A

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please amend the application prior to examining the case, as follows: